

Alpha 66

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In your January 29th issue there were some excellent analyses and profound remarks upon Cuba. With the exception of one remark, I could go straight down the line. This remark denied any possible uprising among the populace. Most of this is due, I think, to the obscurity of news concerning the successes of Alpha 66 and the Second Front.

I have been a member of Alpha 66 for some time now and feel that for some reason I am living in another dimension. Despite the fact that we are carrying out raids against this Communist-held island several times a year, no one prints it, no one hears of them—and no one seems interested.

As of Dec. 1st our Second Front organization had fifteen hundred men in the Cuban underground, engaged in the same kind of insurgency that has been beating the heads off of Western forces all around the world. *We are the only organized, military force extant in the whole world that is carrying the war into Communist territory.*

Our type of insurgency has been used by the enemy for years and the forces of the U.S. are slowly beginning to wake up to its value. The astute military mind will tell you that there is no practical defense against it. It calls for sacrifice, determined dedication and considerable fatalism.

In Laos, Vietnam — and, now, Northern Thailand — terror against the apathetic natives was used to make them assist the Communist insurgents. In Cuba we have a 90 per cent dissident population (largely substantiated by your Jean-Marc Dufour). This is how our Second Front manages to survive on the island and conduct its forays.

Three AP slugs through a Czech or Russian vehicle's motor block is worth more than wiping out a whole platoon of Castro's militia—half of whom may be Second Fronters or *simpaticos*. A burned-out oil dump can immobilize a whole tank company, or a MiG jet group.

All of this the U.S. is finding out in the Far East. There, it is pulling the roof down on us, just as, bit by bit, Alpha 66 and the Segundo Frente is destroying the "Caudillo" myth that the Latin Communists have built up around their Lenin of the Americas.

Our first tactically coordinated raid upon the terminal at Juan Francisco Shores in Las Villas Province on Dec. 4th was too big a job to hide on the last pages. This time we rated page five and six. The amphibious forces of Alpha 66 landed with their demolition equipment to find the rail head secured by the Second Front. They had some two hours to place their charges and to leave the place in a shambles. The Communists will be several months rebuilding their rail system with parts they can only get at great expense from half a world away.

With one exception, the situation between Vietnam and Cuba in their geographical relation in logistics to their prime support is the same. The difference is: the Viet Cong guerrillas get that support while we do not. In fact, under the aegis of the U.S. Neutrality Act our groups are being constantly badgered, harassed, and jailed by the Administration's political police—the CIA. Shipload after shipload of subversive arms is permitted to enter Cuban ports each week to be distributed throughout the Caribbean and Latin American countries to the Communists who hold those people in a state of terror. When we are lucky enough to procure just one piece of Western arms, and manage to smuggle it out of the country and into action against the common enemy, it costs us 40 or 50 times its normal value.

We are a private, shoestring outfit by necessity. Our support comes from people like myself. I am a carpenter. I am broke and in debt and will stay that way until we win this war. The cringing fear of our Administration and its family of advisers makes it necessary for the private American citizen in our colorless times to defend himself—privately.

Fairhope, Ala.

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